



VOLUME XLIX

JUNE 2011

NO 6



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I suppose this article could be titled "Musings of a Lame Duck President" since this is my last column as NAPP President.

We are all connected in some way. As Priest Pilots, we have a double connection: the flying fraternity and the fraternity of our priesthood. Our fraternity brings us together even though we are great distances apart. I look forward to our fly ins to see old friends and to talk flying and to fly a little bit. The NAPP is a great fraternity and has been a real source of enjoyment for me and my brothers for many years. One time I was complaining about the high cost of Avgas to a pilot friend. His response was "go fly and don't worry about it, you'll spend more than that by nine am in the Nursing Home." Just remember that simple fact brothers if you are tempted not

to fly to the convention this summer--nursing homes are a lot more expensive and a lot less fun.

There is an ongoing TFR over Sioux City and it is caused by rain in North and South Dakota and snow in the Rockies. Things that happen hundreds and thousands of miles away can have a great effect on us locally. This is certainly true for the residents of Dakota Dunes (a high rent suburb of Sioux City and Bob Lacey's parish) who have to evacuate their community because the Missouri River is flooding their area for the first time in history. Heavy rainfall in North Dakota and Wyoming coupled with high level snowmelt in the Rockies have filled the reservoirs behind the dams in North and South Dakota and forced the Corps of engineers to open the floodgates to save the dams. Downstream in Sioux City the spring has not been excessively wet and this weekend couldn't be sunnier but we are certainly feeling the effects of the rain fall up stream. The local residents look up at the sky and ask why is this happening to us here. It's not supposed to be happening to us here. Sioux City itself is under a Temporary Flight Restriction because the National Guard helicopters are flying back and forth hauling sandbags into the Dakota Dunes area. There is a ceiling of 25 hundred feet to the TFR so you can transit the area at altitude but it is still there as a reminder that we all can be affected in some way by seemingly remote events.

As private pilots we love the independence, flexibility, and freedom that our airplanes afford us. But when we try to fly cross country, we must pay close attention to various airspace

restrictions so that we will not be in violation of FARs. While flying gives us greater freedom it tends to shrink the space we live in and makes it easier to bump up against someone else's space, not to mention their airplane. Flying the Cub around Cherokee you seldom see a lot of air traffic except during the crop spraying season. About the only thing you really worry about are the geese on the pond next door and the turkey vultures circling the airport. They don't seem to acknowledge that there is a proper flight pattern. It is kind of ironic that when I get into a cross country airplane I experience the freedom and flexibility of flight while at the same time I am forced to acknowledge how close other people are and how closely we are all connected.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Mason City in July.



Gene

UPCOMING ELECTIONS

President: Gene Murray has served two terms and cannot run again.

2 VP: Allen Corrigan

Secretary: Phil Gibbs

The above two can be re-elected

A REMINDER

The NAPP fiscal year begins July 1. The new fiscal year – 2012 – begins on that date. A few of you sent your dues within the past couple of months. I will credit you as paid for the new year and will send you a 2012 membership card.

Those attending the NAPP convention will have the opportunity to pay their dues. If all of you come I can collect your dues on site and won't have to keep sending reminders.

Remember to register with John. The information is on the sheet telling you about the NAPP convention.

PLANNING FALL GATHERING



The NAPP Midwest Regional group will gather on Monday, September 26, probably in the Davenport, IA area. Watch for details

Congratulations to NAPP member Robert Gruss of Davenport, IA on being named the new bishop of the Rapid City, SD diocese. His episcopal ordination is set for July 28, 2011



As I begin this newsletter, it focuses on a personal note. Some of you obviously have heard by this time that Everett, the youngest Hemann NAPP member, has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. The weekend following Easter Ev made the following announcement to the assembled at St. Patrick Parish in Cedar Falls, IA.

Holy Week and Easter, challenge us to enter more deeply into the Paschal Mystery - the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus.

This is what it means to be a priest – to walk with people through the Paschal Mystery. To celebrate the joy of birth (Baptism); growing in the faith (First Communion), love (marriages), sickness (anointing & praying) and death (the funeral liturgy and the new life promised)

I have some news to share that relates specifically to our sharing in the Paschal Mystery. I have discovered I have pancreatic cancer. Pancreatic cancer is almost always terminal and life expectancy relatively brief. These have been difficult weeks for me, but my faith, our faith, has enabled me to be strong.

Celebrating the events of the Holy Week with you has been a great source of strength and hope for me.

I have shed many tears, but they have been tears of joy – joyfulness in how God has blest me in this life.

For two years, we have journeyed together. You allowed me to be your servant leader. Now it's time to begin the pilgrimage that leads to the cross, directly.

Like Jesus I ask you to pray with me in my final hour. To keep watch with me. Perhaps I will ask you to wash my feet. I know that you will walk with me, wiping my face as I carry my cross to Golgotha.

I thank you for all you have been, and in advance, for how you will be faithful disciples walking with one another through this unique experience of the Paschal Mystery.

Two years ago I stood here to be installed as your pastor, and I sang a song to you. May it continue to be our theme song in the next few months.

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you. Pray that I may have the courage to let you be my servant too.

The past couple of months have been busy months as the Hemann family gathers in support and prayer for Ev. We thank you for your prayers and support.

The NAPP National Convention is rapidly approaching. The sign up/info sheet is once again included in this newsletter.

Please note the dates and information for the motel reservations.

Reservations for attendance are to be sent to John Hemann. We hope to see you there.

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

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Cedar Falls, IA 50613-1683
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NAPP MIDWEST GATHERING

La Crosse, Wisconsin May 9, 2011

May 9, 2011 was not a typical May day in Wisconsin. To put it bluntly, it was a lousy day – weather wise. The wind gusts at times neared 40 knots. Intermittent rain ranged from nothing to sprinkles to heavy down pour. Despite the almost incomprehensible obstacles members arrived at various times by air and car.,



Pictured above are John Swing, Keith Kitzhaber, John Wolesky, John Hemann, Mel Hemann, Al Wirth, Phil Schmitt, Bill Wenzel and Phil Gibbs in back. Associate Tom Enwright took the picture. Jeff Bryant stopped for several hours. John Herzog, Mike Makelbust and Jack Paisley made it about half way.

Thanks to host John Swing's sister, Jeanne Pavela, early arrivers were treated to a cruise on the Mississippi River.



It's not too crowded at this end of the boat

One of the first railroad bridges to swivel and allow an opening for barges to pass through is pictured here. As years passed this type of bridge became very common the entire length of the river. Modern day bridges are designed so river traffic passes below.



Following the boat ride the group gathered at the Cathedral for a lunch in one of the rooms and then on to the Ace Hardware Distribution Center.



Thanks to the fact all items are logged into the computer base the carts to haul items to a truck are easily accessible to the battery driven carts. A very interesting tour by two congenial guides.



AGENDA NAPP CONVENTION

July 11 – 14, 2011

Clear Lake, Iowa

Monday, July 11 (Arrival Date)

6:00 p.m. Pizza and snacks in hospitality room #217
Best Western Holiday Lodge in Clear Lake, IA

Tuesday, July 12

7:00 a.m. Breakfast on your own
8:30 a.m. Depart, by car, for West Bend, IA (1:10 driving time)
Visit the “Grotto of the Redemption.”
11:15a.m. Noon lunch at restaurant next to Grotto
12:15 p.m. Depart for Algona, Iowa
12:45 p.m. Visit WW II (German POW Museum) and life size
Nativity Creche made by German Prisoners
3:00 p.m. Depart for Clear Lake
4:30 p.m. Hospitality room open, evening meal on your own. Evening free
(5:30 p.m. *For those interested. Daily Mass at St. Patrick Church in Clear Lake*)

Wednesday, July 13

7:00 a.m. Breakfast on your own
9:00 a.m. Annual NAPP meeting
10:30 a.m. Watch the movie “**THE FIGHTING SULLIVANS**
(The five Sullivan brothers and family were members of St. Mary Parish in Waterloo, Iowa. The 5 died together when their ship was torpedoed by the Japanese on November 13, 1942).
12:30 p.m. Noon Lunch
1:45 p.m. Talk by **Kelly Sullivan Loughren**, the only granddaughter of
“The Fighting Sullivans)
4:00 p.m. NAPP Mass in St Patrick Church
5:15 p.m. Hospitality room available
6:30 p.m. Annual Banquet at Best Western Holiday Lodge
8:00 p.m. Hospitality room open

Thursday, July 14

Depart for home on time schedule on your own

THANK YOU FOR COMING

National Association of Priest Pilots (NAPP)

48th Annual Meeting and Convention
Clear Lake, Iowa

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Airport of arrival (KMCW) Mason City/Clear Lake

(North Iowa Air Service will provide great hospitality
to the private pilot - bring tie down ropes)

Delta/Mesaba/KLM Commuter Airline from MSP

(If you come by commercial airline you need to come through MSP)

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Best Western Holiday Lodge (Clear Lake)

1-800-606-3552 or 641-357-5253

Block of rooms reserved under NAPP

You **MUST MAKE** your own reservation and do so by **JUNE 28, 2011**

Two beds in each room for \$79.00 plus 12% tax Restaurant and pool at the Lodge

RESERVATION FOR MEETING and CONVENTION

John W. Hemann
481 N. Shore Drive #301
Clear Lake, IA 50428-1368
641-357-4539 (h) 641-430-4413 ©

HOSPITALITY ROOM #217 AVAILABLE at LODGE

Monday afternoon and evening (Pizza, etc.)

Tuesday and Wednesday (snacks & refreshments)